Incentives to Encourage Sports

3413. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) steps proposed to be taken by the Government for the welfare of sportsmen and their family members who have represented in the National Sports earlier;

(b) whether the Banks and other Government Undertakings provide employment to the sportsmen, as per criteria fixed by the Government; and

(c) if not, reasons thereof and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND THE DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) Government is implementing the Scheme of National Welfare Fund for Sports persons with a view to giving financial assistance to eligible sportspersons and their families in indigent circumstances. This includes sports persons, who have achieved excellence in National Sports.

(b) and (c) The guidelines of the Union Govt. to provide recruitment of meritorious sports persons to its Group 'C' & 'D' posts in relaxation of normal recruitment procedure have been circulated to Govt. Undertakings for suitable adoption.

The Indian Banks Association have also circulated a scheme to all Public Sector Banks under which meritorious sportspersons are recruited in substaff, clerical staff and officers cadre without any written test.

Drug Addicts in the Country

3414. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of drug addicts in the country;

(b) whether the number of drug addicts are increasing or decreasing with a propaganda of the Union Government; and

(c) how much drugs, Hassish, Charas, Brown-Sugar etc, come from different countries and what steps the Government have taken to control the situation?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) and (b) No census of drug addicts has been undertaken. The number of drug addicts in the country cannot be indicated. In 1990-91 about 2.27 lakh drug addicts were registered with various deaddiction, counselling and after-care centres being funded by the Government.

(c) According to information furnished by Narcotics Control Bureau since the operation is illicit, the data regarding quantity of drugs which come from various countries is not available. Government is taking following steps in this regard:—

(i) The Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act was enacted in 1985 and its provisions were further strengthened in 1989;